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A CURSE TO THE COUNTRY

Every day brings new evidence of the scandalous part played by the sensational newspapers of this country in the present war. Ever since the war began our government has been hampered, our army discouraged, and our national reputation blackened abroad by the ignorant or irresponsible correspondents who have been sent to the front by equally ignorant or irresponsible editors. In the last three months it is safe to say these agents of a depraved press have done more to damage our government, our generals, and our admirals in the eyes of the world than all the newspapers of the European continent.

Perhaps the most conspicuous of such offenders against public decency have been Poultney Bigelow, Richard Harding Davis and Sylvester Scovel. While the army was still at Tampa, Bigelow wrote a letter charging our officers with incompetence, our troops with lack of discipline, and our commissariat with demoralization. There was absolutely no excuse for this except that Bigelow might desire to bring his name prominently before the public and to show his employers his ability to advertise their publications throughout the country. He knew that he was harassing the United States government; he knew that, as far as in him lay, he was winning friends in Europe for Spain; he knew that he was slandering our army and disheartening our people; yet, in the interests of yellow journalism, he published his letter.

That letter was re-published broadcast in Europe and led some of the ablest strategists at once to compare the United States with France before the collapse at Metz. In Germany it was said that Mr. Bigelow's "exposure" justified the belief that our soldiers were even more incompetent than those of Spain.

Apparently envious of Bigelow's laurels, Richard Harding Davis came forward at a still more critical juncture with an equally disreputable attack on our army. When our troops had pressed on without artillery or wagons, and, at great sacrifice, had carried the outposts near Santiago, this undereducated and underbred tuft hunter gave rein to his imagination and under the spur of wounded vanity and petty resentment wrote a villainous screed on General Shafter. He accused our general in command of incompetence, of cruelty, of indifference to the welfare of the army, and of criminal negligence in the discharge of his duty. This pack of lies was telegraphed to Europe by the Associated Press and published just at the moment when European judgment was hanging in the balance. Had Davis betrayed our military secrets to the enemy he could not have done the country equal harm. His conduct was worse than treason, yet we have not heard that his newspaper employer has discharged him, or even disciplined him.

It was reserved, however, for Sylvester Scovel to descend to the lowest depths of yellow journalism in the present war. Because he was not allowed to make himself conspicuous when our flag was raised over Santiago, he walked up to the American commander and tried to slap him in the face. Had a French or German correspondent done the same thing under similar circumstances he would have been shot or bayoneted on the spot, and few would have said that he did not deserve his fate.

For years the sensational journals of the American press have been going from bad to worse, and they had become the curse of the country long before the war began. Now they have revealed themselves, not only as the exponents of moral degradation, but as the organs of open treason. They presume not only to

pry into the secrets of the family, to dictate the course of financiers, and to tyrannize society, but also to prescribe policies to our statesmen, to command obedience from our soldiers, and to exact humble deference from our generals and admirals.—Inter Ocean.

SOME WAR-LOAN PERPLEXITIES

The treasury now finds that the small subscribers for bonds, whose number was last week reckoned at 200,000, will actually reach 300,000 or more.

This is giving the treasury people a lot of trouble. First of all, these small subscribers nearly all seem disposed to pay for their bonds in cash, and there is fear that too much money will thus be withdrawn from circulation and locked up in the treasury until needed for war expenses. So the authorities are urging subscribers to take the credit period allowed to them.

Another difficulty is that the express companies have put a limit upon the amount for which they are willing to become responsible. To avoid excessive liability they refuse to receive more than a fixed sum in bonds each day for transmission. As there are 300,000 separate parcels of bonds to be delivered, the work of distribution promises to be tedious.

But it is worth all the trouble. It creates a great and influential body of government creditors scattered all over the country. The fact that bankers are eagerly bidding 104 and more for the bonds before their delivery is an object lesson in the credit of the United States. It is teaching the people that the very men whose business it is to gauge credit think so well of United States securities that they will take them at three per cent, and throw off a year and a quarter's interest in order to get them.

The popular loan is one of the very greatest of the benefits of war.—New York World.

A London paper says: "The lessons to be drawn from the Spanish-American sea fights are not clear, satisfactory and conclusive." This reminds us to remark that the lessons to be drawn from the American-Spanish sea fights are clear in that they prove as clearly as light shines through unclouded crystal that to win sea fights you must have better gunners than your enemy's; they are satisfactory because they teach without doubt or confusion the value of—in addition to good gunnery—courage, discipline and intelligence; they are conclusive—well, ask Montojo and Cervera.

With a reported speed of twenty-one knots an hour the Cristobal Colon when running for her life succeeded in making an actual speed of 13.7 knots for less than four hours. It is probable that this loss of one-third of her speed was due in part to bad coal, and a very small part of it may be due to the condition of her bottom, but it is more than likely that the chief cause of her failure and loss was the inability of the Spanish engineers to keep her motive power in good condition. This furnishes an interesting suggestion for the other naval powers of Europe.

Commodore Schley's modest and generous words, "I am glad that I had an opportunity to contribute in the least to a victory that seems big enough for us all," will redound to his honor almost as much as his conspicuous part in winning the great fight. When the question of the credit was first raised as between Sampson and Schley. The World said: "There is glory enough for both." Commodore Schley improves upon this in saying that there was glory enough for all.

The situation in Havana, from all accounts, is becoming unendurable, and the surrender of the city may be looked for at any moment, whether the present peace negotiations be successful or not.

The respectable residents of Manila demand that we shall govern the Philippines. England advises us to hold them. We shall be hated

FICTION VS. FACTS IN WAR

The unavoidable absence of Richard Harding Davis and Stephen Crane from the battle of Waterloo will always be deplorable by students of that memorable and decisive conflict in the world's history. In the light of recent events, we can only regret that the magnificent engagement was not postponed until our great war correspondent could have handled the disposition of the troops and the commissary arrangements of the contending armies in the columns of the yellow newspapers and up to date magazines.

That far-away look in the eyes of the great Napoleon and that air of abstraction in the demeanor of the great Wellington just before the battle opened, which were noticed by their staff officers and which historians have vainly endeavored to explain, may be easily accounted for now. Napoleon was not worrying about his absent general, as may be supposed, but wondering if a Richard would come up, and Wellington, instead of fretting over the weight of the army's artillery, was depressed over the absence of a Stephen. But the armies were restless, the die was cast, and the conflict could not, at the last moment, be postponed with out causing a general disturbance of the European money market and creating great uneasiness in London and Paris.

Charles O'Malley and his faithful attendant, Mickey Free, have done much to repair the loss inflicted upon humanity by the unavoidable absence of the great war correspondents of our times. They have accomplished much in the way of stripping the engagement of those impertinent and annoying facts which are ever in the way of the writer and lover of pure fiction, and Victor Hugo, with that disregard for obstacles which marks the true genius, supplemented the work of his predecessors by furnishing a deep ravine for the battlefield, which nature had thoughtlessly neglected to provide, in order that the defeat of the French might harmonize with the general design of his romances. But these, though the efforts of masters in their day, were but weak conceptions when compared with the effects Richard or Stephen might have produced upon coming ages had they been anywhere in the vicinity of Brussels after the ball.

The official reports of the final triumph of the allies over Napoleon and the histories based upon them are dry and uninteresting in comparison with the vivid description of a skirmish in a banana patch before Santiago furnished by Richard and Stephen.

Former writers, even though inspired with such zeal and courage in the discharge of their duties as to seek news at the cannon's mouth, and though sharing the perils and hardships of the common soldier, were not gifted with that wondrous talent for describing things that never occurred except in their own minds which made the names of Davis and Crane household words throughout the length and breadth of this land.—Inter Ocean.

There isn't a man among the 11,000 United States soldiers now in Manila who will not blush, and have reason to blush, for his country, if our flag is not still there by the dawn's early light after peace is made with Spain.

While it is grammatically correct to say that Gen. Miles has "landed in Porto Rico," it would not be improper to amend the expression in accordance with the phraseology of the prize-ring and say that he has "landed on Porto Rico," and landed heavily.

The Sure La Grippe Cure.

There is no use suffering from this dreadful malady, if you will only get the right remedy. You are having pain all through your body, your liver is out of order, have no appetite, no life or ambition, have a bad cold, in fact are completely used up. Electric Bitters is the only remedy that will give you prompt and sure relief. They act directly on your Liver, Stomach and Kidneys, tone up the whole system and make you feel like a new being. They are guaranteed to cure or price refunded. For sale at Blakeley & Houghton's drug store, only 50 cents per bottle.

CASCADE LOCKS ITEMS.

HAPPENINGS AT "CAMP SAMPSON" AND OTHER PLACES IN THE HEART OF THE CASCADES.

Dalles Talent Makes a Hit at the Locks
 News From the Various Camps of Dalles People Who are Enjoying an Outing.

Mrs. George Herbert and children spent Sunday with Mrs. Morgan.

Mr. Bobbie Day, the popular traveling man, was here Tuesday on business.

Mrs. Clarence Hickok and Mrs. Geo. Morgan spent a day in Portland last week.

Miss Daisie Ross, of Tacoma, Wash., is a guest of the Misses Bolton, at Stevenson, Wash.

Misses Nettie Fredden and Myrtle Rorden, of The Dalles, came down on the Dixon Tuesday, visited the Locks, returning in the afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Sargent, Miss Kate Sargent and Miss Morgan, of The Dalles, arrived here Wednesday morning to join the army of campers.

Mr. Butts and Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Datur visited "Camp Dewey" Sunday. Mr. Butts returned in the afternoon, Mr. Datur and family remaining until the afternoon boat Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Morse, of Portland, spent two weeks with Mrs. Morse's sister, Mrs. D. L. Cates. Mr. Cates and Mr. Morse made a trip to Eagle creek, returning with over 200 mountain trout.

The members of "Homa-Homa, or Happy-go-lucky Camp" visited "Camp Sampson" Wednesday. There is evidently some attraction on the boat for the young ladies, as this is their second visit this week.

The young folks of "Homa Homa Camp," at Stevenson, passed here Monday taking a trip on the Dixon as far as the transfer. Those of the party were Misses Josephine Jenkins, Vesta and Effie Bolton, Maie Barnett and Messrs. Edward Jenkins and Chris Schwabe.

Bert Barrett, of The Dalles, who is camped with Ed Jenkins at Stevenson, came over to the Locks last Friday morning, returning in the afternoon. I entering their camp the boys had forgotten the two great necessities, sugar and tin cups, so were compelled to visit the grocery store here in order to complete their camping outfit.

Rev. DeForrest, of The Dalles, held services here in the Methodist church Tuesday of last week. Miss DeForrest accompanied her father and her beautiful solo offertory added very much to the service. Mr. DeForrest visits the Locks the last Tuesday of the month and the people here are glad of the opportunity of hearing him.

Mr. and Mrs. Pease, Mrs. Bayley and son, Fred Bayley, of The Dalles, visited the Locks Tuesday. They were here for the purpose of selecting a camping spot for their families for the summer. They were entertained at "Camp Sampson," visited the Regulator and watched the Sarah Dixon go through the locks, which is always interesting to visitors.

Mrs. C. J. Crandall, Mr. and Mrs. M. Z. Donnell and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Phillips visited "Camp Sampson" Sunday. The evening was spent in singing. Mr. and Mrs. D. L. Cates and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Morse were present, and Mr. Cates and Mr. Phillips were the soloists at the evening and more than delighted their hearers. A number of persons have inquired at "Camp Sampson" if Mr. Phillips is an instructor in vocal music, as his voice was heard by residents of the Locks during his visit here. The music loving people are desirous of obtaining his services during the coming winter. All inquirers have been directed to the county treasurer, The Dalles, Oregon.

AN APPRECIATED CONCERT.

The Dalles Instrumental Quartette was greeted by a large and appreciative audience in the Levens' hall in this city on Tuesday night. The people of the Loc's have been looking forward to this musical treat for two weeks, and that their expectations were realized was evident by the applause following each number.

Prof. Ryan is an artist and the young men accompanying him are especially clever. Clinton Aiden plays second mandolin and shows a great deal of talent, also Messrs. Parkins and Reese with their respective instruments.

Prof. Ryan's guitar solos show him to be a master of that instrument, also he proved himself a vocalist, the hit of the evening being his rendition of "Ziz, Zazazumzun."

Messrs. Reese and Parkins gave a guitar duett, which was very pleasing. The audience was very much surprised when Prof. Ryan announced that the gentlemen had been his pupils only three months. The Locks people were very proud of Mr. Parkins, as he is an old resident of this city and many of his friends were present to hear him.

The Dalles people camping about the Locks were out in full force to greet the boys, and showed the Locks people that the members of the quartette were favorites at home. The boys visited

"Camp Sampson" in the afternoon and decorated the grounds with posters announcing the evening's entertainment. The young men left for Moffett's Springs to camp for a few weeks. If ever they visit the Locks again on a second concert tour the Levens' hall will not hold the crowd that will be out to hear them.

BIENNIAL REPORT BEING PREPARED

SECRETARY KINCAID BUSILY ENGAGED PREPARING THEM.

It Will Be the Most Complete Report Yet Presented to any Legislature.

Secretary of State H. R. Kincaid is now preparing matter that will appear in his next biennial report to the legislature. His last report was bound in book form and contained 514 pages. Besides setting out the abstract of warrants and business transactions of the state, it embodied biographical sketches of the state officials to date, and the roster of the nineteenth legislative assembly.

Mr. Kincaid's last report was the fullest that has yet been published. The one now under preparation will be more complete.

Besides the abstract of warrants and tabulated statement of state transactions it will contain historical data from the arrival of McLaughlin in the territory in 1823, to date.

It will also contain a list of the members and officers of all the territorial or provisional meetings, and legislatures, beginning with the meeting held February 17, 1841, when Rev. Jason Lee presided; a roster of every state legislature, and a list of all state and territorial officers, including those of the various state institutions.

The length of term, date when inducted into office, and date of expiration of term of each official will be shown. A biographical sketch of each, where obtainable will be supplied.

Preparation of the matter has been going on at intervals for several months, and the work brought up to the year 1890. It is Mr. Kincaid's intention to have the work so in hand that it can be printed and presented to the legislature in the early part of its session.

It has occurred in times past that the secretary's report was not in on time.

The general appropriation bill cannot well be prepared until the secretary's report is to be had, and the records show that resolutions have been adopted calling for it.

To Cure a Cold in One Day.
 Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. 25c.

FROM SANTIAGO DE CUBA.

A Dalles Boy, Jesse P. Flock, Writes to His Parents Describing the Trials and Victories at the Front.

Yesterday Mr. and Mrs. Flock, of this city received a letter from their son Jesse, of Co. H, 4th Infantry, who is one of the brave lads who took part in the storming of Santiago. Knowing that it will be of interest to our readers, we publish the following extracts. He says:

"Well, dad, I have been keeping my health good so far and have not got any shots yet but there have been boys killed right along side of me, but I have prayed to God and he is my only protection. We have had five battles already and there were about 1300 killed and wounded, but I guess it would be useless to think of counting the Spanish losses for we have over 1500 of them for prisoners, let alone the killed and wounded, and we have got their entire fleet, except a few boats that cannot leave Spain. We are located in a horse-shoe shape around Santiago.

"We began firing on the city on the 12th and at night they threw up their flag of truce. I do not know what for, yet they played the same thing on the 4th and began the same way. We kept on until night, then they put up their flag and wanted some considerations. Gen. Miles said if they wanted to surrender alright, and if not it was the same to him. So they said they would give us the city and the section of land surrounding it if we would let them march their army out unmolested, and Gen. Miles said no; that if they didn't want to surrender that hostilities would begin at 4 o'clock, July 11th, and so it did too. Now they have up their white flag, so we are waiting under orders now. I can see hundreds of Spaniards from right where I am sitting and can see all over the town and bay.

"In the last fight there was not one of our men hurt, but I am sure we hurt some of them, for we dismantled three of their cannons that they were using on us, two of which were completely demolished and the other one a wheel was taken off slick and clean, so it must have hurt some of them. When that was done then we fired one shot out of a dynamite gun into an old house on the side of the hill and they came rolling out like a swarm of bees.

"There are a few Spaniards coming over almost every day giving themselves up, and tell us where they have their guns located, so that is a good deal of help to us too. They made a midnight charge on us one night, but we didn't do a thing to them. They only got one of our boys and he was lying about five feet from me, right on the same side of the path, so you see it was pretty close to me. He is from Portland, Oregon, and his name is Vatkenburg, and he was killed instantly."



Aermotor Windmills.

We have lately taken the agency for the Aermotor Windmill, and carry a stock on hand.

We also carry a complete stock of Deep and Shallow Well Pumps, as well as Pitcher Spout and Spray Pump. Call and see us before buying elsewhere.

The Aermotor Mill is considered the best machine on the market. Call and see it.

MAIER & BENTON,
 Sole Agents for Wasco County.

Hardware and Grocery Merchants..... The Dalles, Or.

Money Saved is Money Earned.



WM. MICHELL
 Wishes to inform the public that he is still in the
UNDERTAKING AND PICTURE-FRAME BUSINESS,
 And persons, needing anything in these lines can save money by calling on him before dealing elsewhere.
 Satisfaction Guaranteed. Third and Washington Sts.